

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Walla Walla Veterans Home 92 Wainwright Drive | Walla Walla, Washington 99362 | 509-394-6800 | 509-527-4199 (fax)

December 29, 2021

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives, and Staff:

This letter is to notify you that we received confirmation today of another staff member who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. This brings our current total to 3 positive staff members, and 0 positive residents. All residents have been tested and all received negative results. They'll be retested on Monday. All residents are also being screened and monitored for symptoms regularly throughout the days and evenings.

As always, we are following guidance from Walla Walla Health Jurisdiction, the Center for Disease Control, CMS (Medicare and Medicaid Services), and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

All WWVH staff have been fully vaccinated and are tested twice weekly. Additionally, as part of our ongoing screening process, all staff are screened upon arrival to work each day. The screening process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present, whether they've been exposed to a positive case, and a temperature check. Staff are also asked to report any symptoms that may begin to present after coming to work.

Activities and Visitors: No change to current protocol due to all residents testing negative. If additional positives are discovered, you will receive updated guidance regarding visitation.

Facility Maintenance: Our Housekeeping and Maintenance departments are actively striving 7 days a week to assure that the facility, equipment, and linens are kept clean and sanitized. Our housekeeping team provides continuous disinfections of all the most touched surfaces along with the daily cleaning, sanitation, and repair routines that they provide.

To provide information as quickly and accurately as possible to residents, families, and representatives, we have developed the following website that you're welcome to visit any time: www.dva.wa.gov/covid

As 2021 comes to a close, we want to again express our gratitude for the opportunity and privilege of serving you and your loved one(s). Thank you!

Respectfully,

Lonna Leno Administrator